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SERIAL NO. 09/171,432

corresponding to amino acids 792 to 980; the P2B protein of HAV corresponding to amino acids 981 to 1087; the P2C protein of HAV corresponding to amino acids 1088 to 1422; the P3A protein of HAV corresponding to amino acids 1423 to 1496; the P3B protein of HAV corresponding to amino acids 1497 to 1519; the P3C protein of HAV corresponding to amino acids 1520 to 1738; and conservative variations thereof, wherein the antigenically reactive peptide binds to an antibody specifically antigenically reactive with a peptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS: 11-72 and conservative variations thereof.

71. (Twice amended) The antigenically reactive peptide of claim 70, wherein the amino acid sequence can include individual substitutions, deletions or additions which alter, add or delete a single amino acid or a small percentage of amino acids, and wherein the antigenically reactive peptide binds to an antibody specifically antigenically reactive with a peptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS: 11-72.

72. (Twice amended) The antigenically reactive peptide of Claim 70 wherein the antigenically reactive peptide has an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS: 11-72 and wherein amino acid sequence from at least one of SEQ ID NOS:38-43 is excluded .

Please add the following new claims:

77. (New) An isolated, antigenically reactive HAV peptide, the antigenically reactive peptide comprising an amino acid sequence of a portion of an HAV protein selected from the group

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Sub. G-3  
F2  
E2  
consisting of the VP3 protein of HAV corresponding to amino acids 246 to 491; the VP1 protein of HAV corresponding to amino acids 492 to 791; the P2A protein of HAV corresponding to amino acids 792 to 980; the P2B protein of HAV corresponding to amino acids 981 to 1087; the P2C protein of HAV corresponding to amino acids 1088 to 1422; the P3A protein of HAV corresponding to amino acids 1423 to 1496; the P3B protein of HAV corresponding to amino acids 1497 to 1519; the P3C protein of HAV corresponding to amino acids 1520 to 1738, wherein the antigenically reactive peptide lacks a portion of sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS:38-43, and wherein the antigenically reactive peptide binds to an antibody specifically antigenically reactive with a peptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS: 11-72 and conservative variations thereof.

78. (New) The antigenically reactive HAV peptide of claim 77, wherein the peptide contains no portion of sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS:38-43.

Sub F3  
79. (New) An isolated, antigenically reactive HAV peptide, the antigenically reactive peptide comprising an amino acid sequence of only a portion of at least two HAV proteins selected from the group consisting of the VP3 protein of HAV corresponding to amino acids 246 to 491; the VP1 protein of HAV corresponding to amino acids 492 to 791; the P2A protein of HAV corresponding to amino acids 792 to 980; the P2B protein of HAV corresponding to amino acids 981 to 1087; the P2C protein of HAV corresponding to amino acids 1088 to 1422; the P3A protein of HAV corresponding to amino acids 1423 to 1496; the P3B protein of HAV corresponding to amino acids

1497 to 1519; and the P3C protein of HAV corresponding to amino acids 1520 to 1738, wherein the antigenically reactive peptide binds to an antibody specifically antigenically reactive with a peptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS: 11-72 and conservative variations thereof and wherein the antigenically reactive peptide is not a full-length HAV polyprotein.

Sub. 93  
80. (New) The antigenically reactive HAV peptide of claim 79, wherein the amino acid sequence of the HAV peptide consists of a portion of any HAV protein selected from the group consisting of the VP3 protein, the VP1, the P2A protein, the P2B protein, the P2C protein, the P3A protein of HAV, the P3B and the P3C protein, wherein the conservative variations thereof consist of individual substitutions, deletions or additions which alter, add or delete a single amino acid or a small percentage of amino acids, and wherein the sequence of the antigenically reactive HAV peptide is not contained in any HAV polyprotein.

81. (New) An isolated, antigenically reactive HAV peptide, the antigenically reactive peptide comprising an amino acid sequence of a portion of the P2A protein of HAV corresponding to amino acids 792 to 980 and to a portion of an HAV protein selected from the group consisting of the VP3 protein of HAV corresponding to amino acids 246 to 491; the VP1 protein of HAV corresponding to amino acids 492 to 791; the P2A protein of HAV corresponding to amino acids 792 to 980; the P2B protein of HAV corresponding to amino acids 981 to 1087; the P2C protein of HAV corresponding to amino acids 1088 to 1422; the P3A protein of HAV corresponding to amino acids 1423 to 1496; the P3B protein of HAV corresponding to amino acids 1497 to 1519; the P3C protein